

allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has canceled claims 1, 3, 10, 29, and 30 and introduced new claims 31-33 with the limitations suggested in the Office Action as being drawn to allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, new claim 31 claims the subject matter canceled in claim 3 with all of the limitations of canceled claim 1 from which claim 3 depends. New claim 32 claims the subject matter canceled in claim 3 with all of the limitations of canceled claim 10. Claim 33 depends from claim 32 and should be allowable for at least all of the reasons for which claim 32 is allowable.

Provisional Rejection of Claims under the Judicially-Created Doctrine of
Obviousness-Type Double-Patenting

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-10, and 18-28 are provisionally rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double-patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 5, 6, 11, and 13 of co-pending U.S.S.N. 09/691,590. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-10, and 18-28 are hereby canceled, without prejudice, to their entry into this or a related application. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of all remaining claims in due course.

Related Pending Applications

Applicant has filed related applications in the U.S. Patent Office, U.S.S.N. 10/280,678; U.S.S.N. 10/281,372; U.S.S.N. 10/280,158; U.S.S.N. 10/280,802; U.S.S.N. 10/280,818; U.S.S.N. 10/280,582; U.S.S.N. 10/280,430; U.S.S.N. 10/280,552; U.S.S.N. 10/280,935; and U.S.S.N. 10/281,035 all claiming priority to the instant application, U.S.S.N. 09/691,345 and claiming benefit of provisional application U.S.S.N. 60/171,733.

Amendment to the Specification

The specification is amended merely to correct the statement regarding federally-sponsored research.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant submits herewith a sixth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant would appreciate receiving an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 with the next Office Action.



CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all objections and rejections of the pending claims are overcome and claims 11-17, and 31-42 are in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned representative at (617) 248-7044.

Respectfully submitted,

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